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unusual merit from the fact that the plants yielding the useful products are not named in the vague way too frequent in such discussions, but have been subjected to the critical identification of a systematic expert.

Besides the above-mentioned papers by Dr. Rose, the contribution contains a short article by Prof. L. F. Henderson, characterizing two new plants from Idaho, and another by Professor Coulter and Dr. Rose, describing and figuring an interesting new umbelliferous genus, *Hesperogenia*, from Mt. Rainier.

B. L. R.

Bailey's Botanizing.¹—Under the title of *Botanizing*, Professor Bailey of Brown University has issued a revised and enlarged edition of *The Botanical Collector's Handbook*. Few of the methods taught are likely to lead to measurably poor results, though experience will teach profitable modifications of some of them to any boy with Yankee ideas, and most of the suggestions are likely to be worth many times the cost of the book to a beginner. T.

Botanical Notes.—Important recent papers on seed anatomy are: Pammel, "The Histology of the Caryopsis and Endosperm of Some Grasses" (*Transactions Acad. Sci. of St. Louis*, VIII, No. 11); Pammel, "Anatomical Characters of the Seeds of Leguminosæ, chiefly Genera of Gray's *Manual*" (*loc. cit.*, IX, No. 6); and Schlotterbeck, "Developmental History of Important Seeds. The Anatomy of the Cotton Seed and the Development of its Seed Coats" (*Pharmaceutical Archives*, II, No. 11).

A catalogue of the spontaneous hybrids of the European flora, by E. G. Camus, is being published in current numbers of the *Journal de Botanique*.

The most important recent publication on American fossil plants is Professor Ward's "Cretaceous Formation of the Black Hills as indicated by the Fossil Plants," extracted from the *Nineteenth Report of the United States Geological Survey*. The paper is profusely illustrated, largely by reproductions of photographs made directly from the specimens.

In the advance sheets for December 19 of *Consular Reports*, Edward H. Thompson, United States Consul at Progreso, gives some interesting information concerning sisal fibre, from which it

¹ Bailey, W. W. *Botanizing*. A guide to field collecting and herbarium work. Providence, Preston & Rounds Co., 1899.